COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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For Immediate Release

Pandemic Influenza Summit II

"Moving Forward in the Planning Process"

San Bernardino – A two-day Pandemic Influenza Summit will be held Wednesday, July 15th and Thursday, July 16th, 2009. The goal of the Summit is to increase the capacity to respond to a Pandemic through local partnerships and action planning including Pandemic H1N1 Influenza A resurgence. The Summit will be hosted at the Wong Kerlee Conference Center at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California by the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health Preparedness and Response Program (PRP).

"The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health continues to take aggressive action to respond to an expanding outbreak caused by the Pandemic H1N1 Influenza A by reducing transmission, severity of illness, and providing information to assist health care providers and government agencies to address the challenges posed by the current Pandemic," stated San Bernardino County Health Officer Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D.

On Wednesday, July 15th, 2009, the Summit will feature as a keynote speaker Gilberto Chavez, MD, Deputy Director with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Dr. Chavez will discuss the California response to Pandemic H1N1 Influenza A.

On Thursday, July 16th, 2009, the Summit will highlight "planning-in-action" via an interactive operational training exhibit. The exhibit will include a real life display of a Point of Dispensing (POD) site that would be deployed to provide mass prophylaxis in the event of a Pandemic Influenza outbreak.

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JOSIE GONZALES.....Fifth District

Thursday will also feature a media event from 10:15 AM -10:35 AM. The event will be held at the tent POD exhibit in front of the lawn of the Wong Kerlee Conference Center at 11175 Campus St., Loma Linda, California, 92359. The media is cordially invited to come and view the exhibit.

For more information, please contact Matt Baca at the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health Preparedness and Response Program (PRP) at (909) 376-4165.